

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 02894 241935 Z

13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /070 W
----- 027208

R 241839 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7630

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USLOSACLANT

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 2894

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, OTRA, MILI, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN DEFENSE MINISTER REQUESTS APPOINTMENT WITH
PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1. ON BEHALF OF BELGIAN MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE PAUL VANDEN BOEYNANTS, MEMBER OF HIS CABINET HAS ASKED EMBASSY TO TRANSMIT REQUEST THAT MINISTER, " AS FORMER PRIME MINISTER (1966-68), MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE IN THE HOST COUNTRY TO NATO AND SHAPE, AND POSSIBLY A FUTURE PRIME MINISTER", BE GRANTED A BRIEF AUDIENCE WITH PRESIDENT NIXON DURING THE PERIOD JUNE 25-28. VANDEN BOEYNANTS WILL TRAVEL TO THE US TO ATTEND A SACLANT SYMPOSIUM BUT INTENDS TO STAY IN WASHINGTON, WHERE HE WILL ARRIVE ON THE EVENING OF JUNE 24. ALTERNATIVELY, VANDEN BOEYNANTS WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, ALTHOUGH THE PROSPECT OF MEETING WITH THE LATTER AT SOME FUTURE NATO GATHERING REDUCES THE NEED TO MEET AT THIS TIME. EMBASSY NOTED THAT IT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE FREE TO RECEIVE THE MINISTER AND THAT THE SCHEDULE OF THE RECENTLY NOMINATED SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WOULD OF COURSE BE VERY TIGHT.

2. COMMENT: SINCE RECEIVING CALL FROM MINISTRY, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED A COPY OF STATE 55767 FROM USNATO. WHILE WE ASSUME THAT INSTRUCTION APPLIES EQUALLY TO REQUESTS FROM MINISTERS
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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 02894 241935 Z

VISITING SACLANT, WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION BEFORE
GIVING FINAL RESPONSE TO VANDEN BOEYNANTS' CABINET.
STRAUSZ- HUPE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
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